

John F. Kennedy KEATING
STENNIS

Continuing Buildup Hit by Senators

New Showdown Urged on Red Arms in Cuba

By JACK STEELE

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R., N. Y.) hinted broadly today that more arms-carrying Soviet ships are en route to Cuba.

"I am disturbed about some of the Russian ships now on the high seas," Sen. Keating said in a cryptic statement to The Washington Daily News and other Scripps-Howard Newspapers.

He declined to elaborate.

FREIGHTERS

But the New York Republican said he had information that at least two of three Soviet freighters which recently docked at Havana were laden with "armaments."

Meanwhile, Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (R., Ill.) said air reconnaissance flights over Cuba do not provide enough information to prove Russian missiles have been removed. "It is easy to conceal missiles, particularly in the many caves of Cuba," Sen. Dirksen said.

Sen. Keating, who first warned last year that Soviet long-range missiles were being installed in Cuba, said he is more than ever convinced a new Russian military buildup is being pressed in Cuba—despite Administration denials.

"I regard the situation as extremely serious," he said.

His new warning came as Sen. John C. Stennis (D., Miss.) demanded the Kennedy Administration take a new "hard line" stand against what he called the "formidable" Soviet military strength now "building up" in Cuba.

Sen. Stennis said he also was "alarmed" that Cuba as a "front" of the build-up of Russian military forces—was "becoming rapidly the second strongest military power in the Western Hemisphere."

And he suggested President Kennedy might have to seek a new showdown with Khrushchev—similar to that of last October over missiles and bombers in the Soviet Union.

INTERVIEW

His statement—made in a television interview yesterday with Sen. Keating—was the strongest which has been made on Cuba by any Democratic leader in Congress.

Sen. Stennis heads the Senate preparedness sub-committee which this week will launch an investigation of Russian military strength in Cuba.

The Administration has denied any new build-up of "offensive" weapons or troops by the Soviet in Cuba.

But Sen. Stennis insisted: "I do not think the people of the U. S. have been told all the facts."

Describing the continued presence of Russian troops in Cuba as the "big question," he said:

"With this formidable strength, I think that we must have a hard, firm policy about it—convince them (the Russians) we are going to be hard about it."

"It could lead to the proposition that we'd have to make demands for this force as we did for the missiles and bombers."

Sen. Stennis warned that the "great menace" of the Soviet military build-up in Cuba was its possible use for subversion, coercion and "even an invasion" of smaller nations of Latin America.

HEARINGS

Sen. Stennis pledged that, although most of his sub-committee's hearings would have to be behind closed-doors, he would "get out to the American people the basic facts we develop."

He said the sub-committee would call as witnesses Secretary of State Dean Rusk; John A. McCone, director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Rear Admiral Edward J. O'Donnell, former Commandant at the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba and Chiefs of Staff of the military services.

their activities "may have inimical to the best interests of our government" (UPI)

Education Aid

The Administration sent Secretary Anthony J. Celebrezze to Capitol Hill to launch the campaign for President Kennedy's aid-to-education program. Mr. Celebrezze, who heads the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, testified before the House Education and Labor Committee at the opening of hearings on Mr. Kennedy's proposals. (UPI)

Tax Reforms

Strong congressional opposition was developing to President Kennedy's proposed cut in tax deductions for such items as church contributions and medical bills.

The curb on tax deductions is the big revenue-producing feature of Mr. Kennedy's tax cut and reform bill (UPI)

Soviets & Oil

Five members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee pulled on the government and the U. S. oil industry to take steps against a Soviet oil offensive which has captured a large share of Western European markets in recent years. (UPI)

Filibuster Rule

Weathermen, fighting a battle in the senate's anti-filibuster rule served notice they are prepared to go as long as necessary to defeat or sidetrack the move. The renewed warning came as the Senate moved into its fourth week on the issue (UPI)